

VOLUNTOWN SELECTMEN'S MEETING
April 19, 2016

Meeting	A Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Tuesday, April 19, 2016 at the Voluntown Town Hall. Mr. Sirpenski, First Selectman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
Selectmen Present	Robert A. Sirpenski, Jack S. Wesa
Town Officials	None
Citizens Present	Arthur & MaryAnne Nieminen; Ralph LaFrazza; Jennifer Panko; David Blanchette; Richard Ricard; Audience of Citizens
Approval of Minutes	
Motion	A motion was made (Jack Wesa/Robert Sirpenski) to approve the minutes of the meeting held on April 5, 2016 with the following change on Page 2 – Line 1, replace NECCOG with CEDA. Motion Approved.
Motion	A motion was made (Robert Sirpenski/Jack Wesa) to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting held on April 13, 2016 as submitted. Motion approved.
Citizens Comments	
Arthur Nieminen	Mr. Nieminen noted that he did not feel the proposed State Gun Range would be a benefit to the Town because they would not need to use the town's fuel stations or restaurants. Mr. Nieminen voiced several concerns about the Public Works Department. He does not believe that the Foreman should take the pickup home and noted several instances when he followed employees and felt they should have used different routes or methods. Mr. Nieminen also questioned whether paving work was put out to bid. Mr. Sirpenski stated that paving is done through a bid process and that due to the length and nature of Mr. Nieminen's concerns, a meeting with the BOS should be scheduled to discuss any personnel issues he may have.
Ralph LaFrazza	Mr. LaFrazza stated that he wanted to compliment the Public Works Department for the work they had done in the area of Bennett Circle. He noted that since catch basins and drains were cleared, he is having a problem with water on his property. Mr. Sirpenski agreed the area needs to be addressed and it is something the BOS will be working on.
Citizen	A member of the audience requested that the BOS place Citizens Comments at the end of the meeting. Mr. Sirpenski noted that it works both ways, and that many times people leave after they have spoken.
MaryAnne Nieminen	Ms. Nieminen asked the BOS to meet with her at Wylie Schoolhouse to create a maintenance and repair schedule for the building. The BOS will set up a meeting when Ms. Hanson returns from vacation.
Correspondence & Announcements	
Conn. Armed Forces Day	The Dept. of Army & Air Force forwarded an invitation for the 67 th Annual Conn. Armed Forces Day Luncheon.
Lib. – USDA Loan	Ms. Rubin, Library Director, forwarded information on the USDA Loan application process.
NECCOG	The regularly scheduled meeting for April 22, 2016 has been rescheduled to April 29, 2016.

SECTER	The Southeastern CT Enterprise Region has scheduled a discussion with respect to local and regional economic development on April 25, 2016.
David Hartikka	Mr. Hartikka forwarded a request to have snowplowing erosion repaired.
CCM – Budget	Mr. Rafael, of CCM, forwarded information on the revised FY 17 State Budget. The latest, ongoing, revision shows a reduction of over \$96,000 in ECS funds for the Town.
State Gun Range	Mr. Sirpenski noted that he received thirteen letters, some from N. Stonington, New Haven and California asking that the proposed range not be built in Voluntown.
 New Business	
Tax Refunds Motion	A motion was made (Jack Wesa/Robert Sirpenski) to refund overpayment of taxes to Terry Mandy and Mary Magrey. Motion approved.
Prayer Day Resolution - Motion	A motion was made (Jack Wesa/ Robert Sirpenski) to approve a Prayer Day Resolution for the Town of Voluntown. Motion Approved. A copy of the Resolution is appended to these minutes.
Historical Society Site Committee	<p>Ms. Jennifer Panko presented an overview of the Historical Society Site Committee’s plans to revitalize the Voluntown Methodist Church & Meeting House as well as other historic buildings in town. Ms. Panko noted that they are in the process of applying for nine grants and are seeking donations as well as planning fundraising activities to help fund the Church project. Ms. Panko stressed that they hope to restore the church without using any Town funds. The BOS was provided with a booklet outlining their plans.</p> <p>Mr. David Blanchette noted that due to the location of the Church, his property will be impacted by any work done on the building. Mr. Richard Ricard stated that the initial “Make Safe Repairs” are already two years old.</p> <p>Mr. Sirpenski stated that he appreciates the effort not to use Town Funds as there are many other needs which will have to be addressed, among them Fire Dept. and Public Works equipment. Ultimately, because the building belongs to the Town, the issue will be brought to a Town Meeting.</p>
 Adjournment	
Motion	A motion was made (Jack Wesa/Robert Sirpenski) to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m. Motion Approved.

Respectfully submitted by:

Approved for distribution by:

Roxanne Gray, Admin. Asst. to the BOS

Robert Sirpenski, First Selectman